

Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S.D.A.

Washington, D. C.

February 19, 1960

Cattle Numbers at New High--Rise is 9 Percent in Last Two Years

Cattle and calves on U. S. farms and ranches totaled 101.5 million head on January 1, a new high--up 5 percent from a year earlier and 13 percent above average. Increase from 2 years ago is 9 percent or 8.2 million head--a sharp upswing, but some 2-year increases have been greater. Numbers are 5 percent above previous high reached on January 1, 1956.

Estimates are from the annual livestock and poultry inventory, issued February 12 by the Crop Reporting Board, AMS

More Hogs Than Last Year

Hogs and pigs totaled 58.5 million head on January 1, up 3 percent from a year earlier and 7 percent above the 10-year average. Numbers on January 1 were the largest for the date since 1952.

Hogs under six months old January 1 totaled 38.7 million head--3 percent more than a year earlier and the second largest number for that date in 41 years of record.

Market hogs over six months old on hand January 1, (not including sows and gilts kept for farrowing) totaled 11.5 million head, largest number since 1956, and compares with 9.9 million on hand in January 1959.

Fewer Milk Cows, More Sheep

The 21.3 million milk cows and heifers on hand January 1 were 1 percent fewer than a year earlier. Decreases occurred in a majority of States; the only areas showing increases were the Western and South Atlantic sections.

All sheep and lambs, at 33.6 million, were up 2 percent from a year earlier; stock sheep and lambs, at 29.5 million, were up 3 percent; and the number on feed for market at 4.1 million head was 7 percent less than a year earlier.

Other Livestock, January 1, 1960¹

Horses and mules--3,089,000 head, down about 2 percent or 53,000 head from a year ago and down 44 percent from the 1949-58 average of 5,482,000. The 2 percent decline in 1959 compares with a 6 percent drop during both 1957 and 1958.

Chickens (excluding commercial broilers)--366,859,000, a decrease of 4 percent from a year earlier. Numbers were below last year in all regions except for a 1-percent increase in the South Atlantic and a 3-percent increase in the West. Chicken inventory included 223,838,000 pullets, 125,514,000 hens and 17,507,000 other chickens. Year-ago totals were 244,102,000 pullets, 119,549,000 hens, and 19,878,000 other chickens.

Turkeys (excluding turkey fryers)--5,673,000, a decrease of 4 percent from a year earlier, but 10 percent above average. Inventory includes 5,079,000 heavy breeds and 594,000 light breeds.

Turkey breeder hens totaled 3,436,000 compared with 3,715,000 a year earlier--a decrease of about 8 percent (heavy breeds down 3 percent; light breeds down 30 percent).

Goats(Texas)--3,339,000 head, 6 percent more than on January 1, 1959.

Emphasis on Beef Cattle Herds

All States, except Maine, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Delaware showed an increase in cattle numbers during 1959.

The increase in cattle numbers resulted mainly from an expansion in classes kept for purposes other than milk. Cattle on feed January 1 in 26 important feeding States were up 9 percent from the preceding year. An abundance of feed has been an important factor in the increase in cattle inventories.

Imports of 695,000 head of live cattle during 1959 from Canada and Mexico were only three-fifths as large as in 1958--from Canada only about half, from Mexico about three-fourths as much as in 1958.

Commercial slaughter of cattle and calves in 1959, at 30.7 million head, declined 7 percent from 1958 (cattle slaughter was down last year 603,600 head and calves down 1,542,000).

Livestock Values Down From Year Ago

Inventory value of all livestock and poultry on farms and ranches January 1 was 16.2 billion

Prices of Farm Products

Commodity	Average Prices received by farmers		Effective parity prices
	Dec. 15 1959	Jan. 15 1960	
Basic commodities:			
Cotton, Amer. upland (lb.) . ct.	30.03	29.34	38.63
Wheat (bu.) dol.	1.79	1.78	2.37
Rice (100 lb.) dol.	\$ 4.68	4.92	5.92
Corn (bu.) dol.	.959	.979	1.63
Peanuts (lb.) ct.	10.4	10.1	12.9
Designated nonbasic commodities:			
Milkfat in cream (lb.) ct.	61.8	59.7	73.9
Milk, wholesale (100 lb.) . . dol.	4.48	4.36	4.99
Wool (lb.) ct.	2 41.7	2 42.5	74.2
Other nonbasic commodities:			
Barley (bu.) dol.	.864	.848	1.27
Cottonseed (ton) dol.	39.10	39.60	67.00
Flaxseed (bu.) dol.	3.20	3.12	3.83
Hay, baled (ton) dol.	21.90	22.20	25.00
Oats (bu.) dol.	.677	.685	.840
Potatoes (cwt.) dol.	1.89	2.10	2.33
Rye (bu.) dol.	.960	.925	1.49
Sorghum, grain (100 lb.) . . . dol.	1.50	1.53	2.50
Soybeans (bu.) dol.	1.98	2.01	2.91
Sweetpotatoes (cwt.) dol.	\$ 3.55	3.51	5.50
Oranges, Equiv. on tree ⁴ (box) dol.	1.81	2.06	2.13
Apples, for fresh use (bu.) . . . dol.	2.09	2.14	2.48
Beef cattle (100 lb.) dol.	19.50	20.30	23.70
Calves (100 lb.) dol.	23.10	24.00	26.20
Hogs (100 lb.) dol.	11.20	12.10	21.30
Lambs (100 lb.) dol.	16.60	17.80	25.60
Chickens, all (lb.) ct.	16.2	16.3	25.7
Eggs (dozen) ct.	30.7	29.6	46.3

¹ Preliminary.

² Does not include incentive payment to bring season average return to 62 cents per pound.

³ Revised.

⁴ Excludes tangerines, previously included.

¹Numbers on farms and ranches in the U.S. For numbers and total values by States, see the full report, "Livestock and Poultry Inventory", Crop Reporting Board, AMS, USDA, Washington 25, D.C.

dollars, down 10 percent from a year earlier. Average value per head of all cattle was down 11 percent, milk cows, down 5 percent, hogs down 42 percent, stock sheep down 19 percent, and horses and mules value up 11 percent. The average value of chickens was down 17 percent and turkeys up 6 percent from a year earlier.

Values Per Head, Jan. 1, With Comparisons

Cattle on Jan. 1, 1960 were valued at \$136 per head, compared with \$153 a year earlier, \$119 in '58 and \$120 for the 1949-58 average (values are farm values).

Milk cows, 2 years old or older--\$208 compared with \$219 a year earlier, \$176 in 1958 and \$179 for the 10-year average.

Hogs--\$18.50 compared with \$32 year earlier, \$30.20 in 1958 and \$29.40 for the 10-year average.

Stock sheep--\$16.50 compared with \$20.30 a year ago, \$19.40 in 1958 and \$18.20 for the 10-year average.

Statistical Series of Interest to Agriculture

Item	1959					1960
	Jan.	Yr.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	
	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	
Nonfarm employment, (civilian) ¹	58.0	59.7	60.0	60.9	59.4	
Farm employment	5.3	7.4	6.6	5.3	5.0	
Family	4.4	5.5	5.1	4.3	4.1	
Hired	1.0	1.9	1.5	1.0	1.0	
Index numbers (1947-49 = 100)						
Industrial production ²	152	159	155	165	169	
Total personal income payments ³	181	187	190	192	-	
Weekly factory earnings ⁴	158	167	167	175	175	
Average earnings of factory workers, per worker ⁴	165	169	168	174	175	
Wholesale prices, all commodities ⁴	120	119	119	119	119	
Farm commodities	92	89	85	86	86	
Food, processed	109	107	105	105	106	
Consumer price index ⁴	124	125	126	126	-	
Food	119	118	118	118	-	
Index numbers (1910-14 = 100)						
Prices received by farmers	245	240	230	228	231	
Crops	215	221	216	217	219	
Food grains	199	202	206	206	206	
Feed grains and hay	152	156	150	149	151	
Cotton	238	264	260	254	248	
Tobacco	499	504	504	491	486	
Oil bearing crops	218	219	216	215	216	
Fruit	211	214	199	198	202	
Com. Vegetables	267	241	228	258	264	
Livestock and products	270	255	243	238	242	
Meat animals	328	312	275	264	278	
Dairy products	264	254	279	274	266	
Poultry and eggs	161	142	139	148	144	
Prices paid by farmers	276	275	275	275	275	
All commodities	287	289	291	291	290	
Used in living	268	266	264	264	265	
Used in production	298	298	297	297	299	
Commodities, interest, taxes, and wage rates (parity index)	610	612	602	602	632	
Farm wage rates, seasonally adjusted....	82	80	77	77	77	
Parity ratio (prices received to parity index)						

¹ Bureau of the Census.

² Federal Reserve Board, revised--now includes utilities.

³ Department of Commerce.

⁴ Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Horses and Mules--\$112; year ago, \$101; 2 years ago, \$83.90; 10-year average, \$62.10.

Chickens--\$1.05; year ago, \$1.26; 2 years ago, \$1.26; 10-year average, \$1.36.

Turkeys--\$4.91; year ago, \$4.65; 2 years ago, \$4.67; 10-year average \$6.16.

Large Feed Grain Supplies

The combined stocks of feed grains January 1 (corn, oats, barley, and sorghum grain) totaled 171 million tons, topping a year earlier by 9 percent. The portion on hand outside the price support program totaled 110 million tons. The supply of feed grains with other concentrates added totaled 263 million tons for the 1959-60 season, 7 percent more than for the previous season and more than a third larger than the 1953-57 average.

Hay Supplies Down From Year Ago-- Heavy Disappearance.

Hay production in 1959 totaled about 113 million tons, 7 percent less than the previous year's record large crop, but 5 percent above the average. Stocks of hay January 1 at 25.9 million tons were 12 percent below a year earlier.

Heavy disappearance of hay during 1959 was

Livestock and Livestock Products

Item	Unit	Jan. -Dec. 1958	Jan. -Dec. 1959
Dairy Production			
Milk	Bil. lb.	¹ 9.9	¹ 9.9
Evaporated whole milk	Mil. lb.	2,298.3	2,266.5
Dry Nonfat milk solids	Mil. lb.	1,708.8	1,722.3
(for human food)	Mil. lb.	1,388.6	1,329.1
Butter, creamery	Mil. lb.	972.9	945.6
Cheese, American	Mil. gal.	656.7	700.6
Ice cream			
Poultry Production			
Eggs	Billions	¹ 5.4	¹ 5.3
Poultry meat ²	Mil. lb.	5,653	5,931
Canned poultry	Mil. lb.	261.0	288.1
Liquid egg	Mil. lb.	480.8	695.6
Dried egg (egg solids)	Mil. lb.	25.3	53.3
Frozen egg	Mil. lb.	350.9	435.7
Chicks hatched, total ³	Millions	¹ 187.3	¹ 184.4
Chicks hatched, broiler ³	Millions	¹ 151.9	¹ 160.7
Poult hatched ³			
Heavy breeds	Millions	¹ 2.4	¹ 3.1
Light breeds	Millions	¹ 1.5	¹ 1.5
Meat Production ² (dressed weight)			
Beef	Mil. lb.	12,983	13,245
Veal	Mil. lb.	1,103	943
Pork	Mil. lb.	9,618	11,131
Lamb and mutton	Mil. lb.	674	732
Total red meat	Mil. lb.	24,378	26,051
Slaughter ²			
Cattle	1,000 head	23,555	22,952
Calves	1,000 head	9,315	7,773
Hogs	1,000 head	70,965	81,588
Sheep and lambs	1,000 head	14,164	15,414

¹ January 1959 and 1960.

³ By commercial hatcheries.

² Commercial excludes farm slaughter.

the result of the record 100-million roughage-consuming animal units and continued liberal feeding per animal.

January 1 hay stocks were below last year in every region except the East North Central. Sharpest decline was in the West North Central region where the 27.8 million tons on farms January 1 was 6.5 million tons less than a year earlier.

More Vegetables Than Last Year, Despite Freeze

Winter vegetable production was estimated February 1 at 4 percent below the January forecast, but is expected to be 4 percent above last year and 3 percent above average. Late January freezes damaged Florida vegetables and accounted for most of the decline from a month ago.

Compared with last year, winter vegetables with the larger increases include cabbage, carrots and lettuce. Down from last year are tomatoes, celery and sweet corn.

Lower Prospects for Winter Potatoes

1960 winter potato production was forecast on February 1 at 3,014,000 hundredweight, 25 percent below the 1959 crop and 28 percent below average. Forecast is 13 percent below the January 1 estimate, due to lowered prospects in Florida.

Potato Stocks Down From Year Ago

Storage stocks of potatoes held by growers and local dealers on February 1 amounted to 75.2 million hundredweight--10 percent below the 83.8 million cwt. held in February 1, 1959 but 3 percent above average February 1 holdings.

Little Change in Milk Production

Milk production in January, at 9,862 million pounds, was up slightly from a year earlier and topped average for the month by about 11 percent.

On a per capita basis, production was 2 percent below January a year earlier and 1 percent below the January 10-year average. The production in January was enough to provide 1.78 pounds per person per day compared with a daily average per capita in 1959 of 1.93 pounds. In 1958 it was 1.96 pounds, and for the 10-year average 2.04 pounds.

For the full year 1959, Milk production was 124,396 million pounds, down slightly from the 124,883 million pounds (revised) in 1958.

For milk production on farms, by States, in 1958 and 1959, and other data, see Milk Production report issued February 12 by Crop Reporting Board, AMS, Washington, D. C.

Egg Production Down From Year Ago

Hens laid 5,344 million eggs in January, 1 percent less than in January 1959. Number of layers on February 1, this year, was 311,491,000 compared with 321,292,000 same date last year, a decrease of 3 percent.

More Oranges, Fewer Grapefruit

Orange crop (not including tangerines) 1959-60 season, is estimated at 133 million boxes, larger by 3 percent than a year ago and 12 percent above average. Total is made up of 68.3 million boxes. Early and mid-season oranges and 64.6 million boxes Valencias; former up 3 percent, latter up 2 percent from last year. About 71 percent of the Early and Mid-season oranges had been harvested to February 1, compared with 60 percent a year ago.

Cash Receipts from Farm Marketings, by States, December 1959 And All Commodities Entire Year, 1959¹

State	December 1959			All commodities entire year 1959
	Livestock and products	Crops	Total	
	1,000 dollars	1,000 dollars	1,000 dollars	1,000 dollars
Maine	10,125	4,854	14,979	170,837
New Hampshire	4,103	767	4,870	57,499
Vermont	5,831	726	6,557	115,133
Massachusetts	7,399	4,417	11,816	157,233
Rhode Island	1,305	661	1,966	21,100
Connecticut	8,704	3,595	12,299	154,616
New York	49,839	16,869	66,708	836,668
New Jersey	12,819	3,091	15,910	296,274
Pennsylvania	44,765	12,745	57,510	774,433
Ohio	41,314	43,557	84,871	957,649
Indiana	34,447	46,706	81,153	1,028,346
Illinois	83,387	82,343	165,730	1,982,546
Michigan	30,107	26,938	57,045	704,497
Wisconsin	69,400	9,932	79,332	1,058,863
Minnesota	95,430	36,870	132,300	1,373,708
Iowa	186,012	63,794	249,806	2,388,232
Missouri	68,851	51,314	120,165	1,093,493
North Dakota	18,934	9,667	28,601	533,733
South Dakota	39,672	8,418	48,090	578,213
Nebraska	84,719	46,040	130,759	1,177,368
Kansas	52,756	80,658	133,414	1,132,441
Delaware	5,146	820	5,966	99,142
Maryland	13,859	6,696	20,555	252,069
Virginia	18,414	26,208	44,622	466,335
West Virginia	5,086	3,636	8,722	111,988
North Carolina	30,108	61,227	91,335	964,294
South Carolina	8,625	22,052	30,677	353,165
Georgia	27,221	8,841	36,062	703,238
Florida	20,611	53,195	73,806	782,716
Kentucky	16,858	138,115	154,973	575,403
Tennessee	8,724	63,793	72,517	519,344
Alabama	19,750	25,160	44,910	502,694
Mississippi	11,121	58,888	70,009	615,722
Arkansas	13,761	65,666	79,427	694,844
Louisiana	8,409	44,728	53,137	391,259
Oklahoma	34,544	29,456	64,000	601,545
Texas	60,472	194,438	254,910	2,195,561
Montana	2,895	29,709	32,604	427,769
Idaho	18,762	27,157	45,919	409,066
Wyoming	3,619	2,896	6,515	159,971
Colorado	28,860	18,638	47,498	560,018
New Mexico	4,311	14,295	18,606	230,056
Arizona	3,527	41,799	45,326	404,278
Utah	8,274	3,484	11,758	157,509
Nevada	3,636	389	4,025	51,635
Washington	20,778	35,196	55,974	556,989
Oregon	16,586	22,773	39,359	420,117
California	132,581	174,707	307,288	2,977,890
United States	1,496,457	1,727,924	3,224,381	32,777,499

¹ All figures represent sales of farm products, plus Commodity Credit loans reported during the month minus Commodity Credit loans repaid during the month. For comparisons of cash receipts with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation.

Cash Receipts from Farming and Index of Volume of Farm Marketings, United States¹

	December 1959	January 1960
CASH RECEIPTS:	<i>Mil. dol.</i>	<i>Mil. dol.</i>
Total marketings and CCC loans ² ..	3,224	2,700
Livestock and products	1,496	1,400
Meat animals	811	
Dairy products	410	
Poultry and eggs	253	
Other	22	
Crops	1,728	1,300
Food grains	172	
Feed crops	419	
Cotton (lint and seed)	350	
Oil-bearing crops	169	
Tobacco	232	
Vegetables	104	
Fruits and tree nuts	129	
Other	153	
Government payments	53	
Grand total	3,277	
	1947-49 = 100	
VOLUME OF FARM MARKETINGS:		
All commodities	160	
Livestock and products	138	
Crops	190	

¹ For comparison with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation. ² Receipts from loans represent value of loans minus value of redemptions during the month.

Farm-Retail Price Spreads

Farm-Retail Spread and Farmer's Share of the Consumer's Dollar for Market Basket of Farm-food Products

Year and month	Retail cost ¹	Farm value ²	Farm-retail spread	Farmer's share
1958 average ³	1,064	430	634	40%
1958 Dec.	1,042	405	637	39%
1959 Nov.	1,030	386	644	37%
1959 Dec.	1,032	383	649	37%

¹ Retail cost of average quantities of farm foods purchased per urban wage-earner and clerical-worker family in 1952, calculated from retail prices collected by Bureau of Labor Statistics.

² Payment to farmers for equivalent quantities of farm produce minus imputed value of byproducts obtained in processing.

³ Revised.

More Lemons Than Last Year, Fewer Tangerines

Lemon crop is forecast at 18.6 million boxes, 7 percent greater than last year and 36 percent above average. Florida's tangerine crop, at 2.9 million boxes, is only about two-thirds as large as either a year ago or average; harvest on February 1 was about 90 percent finished.

Farm Employment Down 5 Percent

The 5,006,000 persons at work on U. S. farms in late January were about 5 percent less than in January 1959. The total included 4,139,000 farm family workers and 867,000 hired workers.

Numbers Nearly Halved Since 1914

During 1959, the annual average at work on farms totaled 7,384,000 persons, with 5,459,000 family workers and 1,925,000 hired workers. In about 45 years, the total number at work on farms has been reduced by nearly one-half--the 1959 number at work being only 54 percent of the 1910-14 average.

Only Slight Change in Land Values

Farm land values (National index, 1947-49=100) advanced to 171 during the 4 months ended November 1--only 1 percent above July 1 but topping a year earlier by 5 percent. Values remained essentially unchanged in about half the States--chiefly in the eastern Corn Belt, the central South, and the Great Plains. Elsewhere, increases of 2 to 4 percent were typical.

Estimated total dollar value of farm land as of November 1, 1959 was 127.8 billion dollars, or about 110.50 per acre. This was 2 percent higher than in March 1959.

Reports and publications issued regularly by USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service are listed in a new booklet entitled "Periodic Reports of the Agricultural Marketing Service". If you want a free copy, address Marketing Information Division, AMS, USDA, Washington 25, D. C.